

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 /010 R

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DRAFTED BY IATF:MA:BMITCHELL:GA

APPROVED BY IATF:RVKEELEY

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P 151412Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO C G CAMP PENDLETON CALIF

UNCLAS STATE 218853

FOR CIVIL COORDINATOR

FOLLOWING REPEAT FT INDIANTOWN GAP DTG:P 081921Z SEP 75

SENT ACTION FT CHAFFEE REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE:

UNCLAS

SUBJECT: FAMILY REUNIFICATION

REF: MSG 201400Z

RE CARTER CONVERSATION, UNANSWERED, REFERENCED TWX IS REPEATED  
BELOW:

1. THE NEW INFLUX OF PRIORITY I AND PRIORITY II REFUGEES FROM ASIAN CAMPS MAY WELL RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS. TO INSURE CONTINUED EFFICIENT HANDLING OF FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS CASES, WE WOULD LIKE TO RESTATE THE PROCEDURES FOLLOWED AT INDIANTOWN GAP TO INSURE THAT NO PROBLEMS ARISE FROM DIFFERENCES IN MODE OF OPERATION. AS IGMR IS TO CLOSE ON 30 NOVEMBER 1975, WE FEEL THAT THE MAJORITY OF REUNIFICATIONS WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE AT FT. CHAFFEE. WE ARE, THEREFORE, RECOMMENDING SEPTEMBER 30 AS THE CUT OFF DATE FOR TRANSFERS TO IGMR.
  2. WHILE WE REALIZE THAT EACH RESETTLEMENT CENTER'S REUNIFICATION PROCEDURES ARE DIFFERENT, FOR CONTINUED EFFICIENT OPERATIONS WE MUST ASSUME THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS, REQUESTS, AND ACTIONS INITIATED AT OTHER CAMPS HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON BY ALL CAMP UNITS INVOLVED.
  3. AT IGMR, FAMILY REUNIFICATION IS HANDLED BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS FOLLOWING GUIDELINES SET BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. THE ORDER
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OF PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED IN STATE 122434, 27 MAY 1975, ARE AS

FOLLOWS:

- A. SPECIAL HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES SUCH AS EXTRAORDINARY HEALTH PROBLEMS.
- B. REUNIFICATION OF MINORS WITH RESPONSIBLE ADULTS.
- C. OTHER FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS.

THE GUIDELINES FURTHER STATE THAT RELOCATION SHOULD BE TO THE CAMP NEAREST THE INTENDED FINAL SETTLEMENT AREA AND, THAT "ATTEMPTS SHOULD BE MADE TO REUNIFY EXTENDED FAMILIES AT FINAL DESTINATION IF THERE ARE NO SPECIFIC REASONS TO REQUIRE REUNIFICATION AT THE RELOCATION CENTER."

4. WE DOCUMENT EACH CASE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY TRANSFER TO OR FROM THIS CAMP. JUSTIFICATION DETAILS ARE INCLUDED IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS INITIATING OR CONTINUING REUNIFICATION. SUCH DETAILS ARE ALSO EXPECTED FROM OTHER CAMPS. BELOW IS IGMR INTERPRETATION OF PRIORITIES SET IN THE REFERENCED DEPARTMENT OF STATE COMMUNICATION:

- A. IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS (HUSBAND, WIFE) WITH PHYSICAL OR MENTAL PROBLEMS.
  - B. IMMEDIATE FAMILY WITH SMALL CHILDREN AND IMMEDIATE FAMILY WITH OLDER CHILDREN.
  - C. VIETNAMESE EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS (UNCLES, AUNTS, COUSINS, FIANCES, ETC.).
  - D. FRIENDS IN EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES. GUARDIANSHIP AND SPONSORSHIP ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS HERE.
5. THE PROCESS OF REUNIFICATION INVOLVES TWO DISTINCT OPERATIONS:
- A. CASEWORK: INTERVIEWS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TO DETERMINE LOCATION, NUMBERS AND RELATIONSHIPS OF SEPARATED FAMILY MEMBERS, AND WILLINGNESS OF INDIVIDUALS TO REUNITE.
  - B. TRANSFER: SECURING SECURITY CLEARANCES, VOLAG CLEARANCES, CONTROLLER'S TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION AND MAKING CAMP OUT-PROCESSING AND TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.
  - C. THE REUNIFICATION UNIT AT IGMR COMBINES BOTH CASEWORK AND TRANSFER FUNCTIONS. ALL CASES ARE SCREENED AT THE INITIAL INTERVIEW TO AVOID UNNECESSARY PAPERWORK, AND TO AVOID MISLEADING THE CLIENT ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR HIS REQUEST.
6. INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION AT IGMR ALLOWS THE REUNIFICATION UNIT TO COMPLETE TRANSFERS WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF RECEIPT OF CONFIRMATION FROM THE RECEIVING CAMP.
7. WE BELIEVE OUR PROCEDURES ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THOSE OF OTHER UNCLASSIFIED

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RESETTLEMENT CENTERS AND IN CONSONANCE WITH TASK FORCE GUIDELINES. COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION CONCERNING OUR REUNIFICATION PROCEDURES SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO IGMR FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE DIRECTOR, AMERICAN RED CROSS.

8. WE REQUEST TASK FORCE REVIEW OF OUR PROCEDURES AND PRIORITIES AND CONCURRENCE THEREIN IN VIEW OF AN EXPECTED INCREASE IN FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MA:BMITCHELL:GA  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN ITFE  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2004 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FAMILY REUNIFICATION  
**TAGS:** SREF, XC, US  
**To:** C G CAMP PENDLETON CALIF  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006